United Nations S/2016/129

Security Council

Distr.: General
10 February 2016

Original: English

Letter dated 8 February 2016 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA), established by Security Council resolution 2149 (2014) and most recently extended until 30 April 2016 by its resolution 2217 (2015).

Following the usual consultations, I would like to inform you of my intention to appoint Lieutenant General Balla Keïta (Senegal) as Force Commander of MINUSCA. Lieutenant General Keïta will succeed Major General Martin Chomu Tumenta (Cameroon), who tragically passed away on 30 November 2015. I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate my appreciation for the contribution of the late Major General Tumenta to MINUSCA.

I would be grateful if you could bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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Letter dated 10 February 2016 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 8 February 2016 (S/2016/129) concerning your intention to appoint Lieutenant General Balla Keïta (Senegal) as Force Commander of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter.

(*Signed*) Rafael Dario **Ramírez Carreño**
President of the Security Council

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Letter dated 9 February 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

With reference to the letter dated 10 December 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the President of the Security Council (S/2015/954) and its annex thereto, namely, the final communiqué of the Gulf Cooperation Council Summit held on 10 December 2015 in Riyadh in which some unfounded and unacceptable claims have been raised against the Islamic Republic of Iran, I have the honour to state the following:

1. Regional gatherings are meant to promote mutual understanding and advance cooperation in areas of mutual interest in line with the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations. It is regrettable to note that the said final communiqué has distanced itself from that noble aspiration. Iran-related sections in the communiqué are nothing but repeating pre-determined biased positions and false allegations and provocations against Iran, whose self-restraint has prevented this concerted campaign from achieving its goal of exacerbating tension and derailing peace in the Persian Gulf region. We also consider it a misuse of the United Nations procedure to circulate that kind of misleading information.

2. Iran's foreign policy accords priority to enhance friendship with neighbours, strengthen peace and stability in the region and promote constructive engagement across the globe. We are determined to actively contribute to peace in the region in the face of the increasing threat of terrorism and violent extremism and to cooperate with our neighbours and the international community in dealing with these common regional and global threats.

3. Iran highly respects principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries and at the same time believes that the legitimate demands of people should be well respected.

4. "Security for all" has been the principal pillar of Iran's security strategy in the Persian Gulf, which aims to maintain peace, security and stability in the region. Accordingly, Iran reaffirms its readiness to boost cooperation, including through regional integration in the interest of nations in the region.

5. On the unilateral claim by the United Arab Emirates over the Iranian islands of Abu Musa, Lesser Tunb and Greater Tunb, the Islamic Republic of Iran reiterates its consistent and principled position that it does not recognize the existence of any such dispute between Iran and the United Arab Emirates; the three

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islands have been and continue to be an inseparable part of Iranian territory and, therefore, any claim to the contrary is categorically rejected. Nonetheless, and to show its utmost respect for the principle of good neighbourliness, Iran has always expressed its readiness to talk with the United Arab Emirates bilaterally with a view to removing any misunderstanding that may exist on the part of the United Arab Emirates over Abu Musa Island. That said, we caution against any involvement by third parties in this issue of a bilateral character and regard such involvement to be hardly constructive or useful.

6. Finally, "Persian Gulf" is the only true geographical designation for the body of water lying between Iran and the Arabian Peninsula, which has been used from the dawn of history. As the institutional memory of all renowned cartographic agencies testifies, this sea area has always been identified as "Persian Gulf". In this context, the policy of the United Nations in standardization of geographical names, and its policy and practice in emphasizing the name Persian Gulf as the only geographical designation applicable to this body of water is noteworthy and should therefore be respected by all.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated to all members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Gholamali **Khoshroo**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations S/2016/132

Security Council

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10 February 2016

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Letter dated 10 February 2016 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, I am writing to report to the Security Council that the Kingdom of the Netherlands is taking necessary and proportionate measures against the so-called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Da'esh) in Syria in the exercise of the inherent right of collective self-defence of Iraq.

In its resolution 2249 (2015), the Security Council recognized that ISIL/Da'esh constitutes a global and unprecedented threat to international peace and security. It called upon Member States to prevent and suppress terrorist acts committed by ISIL and to eradicate the safe haven that ISIL has established over significant parts of Iraq and Syria. The Council reiterated this call in resolution 2254 (2015). In this respect, the Council noted in resolution 2249 (2015) the letters from the Iraqi authorities stating that ISIL/Da'esh has established a safe haven outside Iraq's borders that is a direct threat to the security of the Iraqi people and territory, and requesting the United States of America to take the lead in efforts to defend Iraq.

Pursuant to this request, the Kingdom of the Netherlands is taking measures against ISIL/Da'esh in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

I would be grateful if you would draw the attention of the members of the Security Council to the present letter and have it distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Paul **Menkveld**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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